THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) During the recent visit of Foreign Minister of Pakistan, the attention of the Pakistan Government was again drawn to specific instances of assistance given to terrorists. The Pakistan Government has been denying giving any such assistance. However, the facts are to the contrary and their reply is not satisfactory to us.

Merger of the Indian Airlines with the Air India

*59. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to merge the Air India and the Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Hazardous radioactive element in a water cooler

*60. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a rare and hazardous radioactive element thorium was found in a water cooler in the nuclear fuel complex, Hyderabad and powder of the substance was found strewn all around the processing plant; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the result of the inquiry, if any, made into the matter and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b) A small quantity of thorium oxide powder was found mixed in a water cooler in the Nuclear Fuel Complex on 18th May, 1985. It has been ascertained after enquiries that nobody had consumed the water from that water cooler. A complaint was lodged with the police regarding the incident and, after investigations, one of the workers of the plant was suspected for this incident. The concerned employee has also been arrested and released on bail. He has also been placed under suspension. Necessary security measures have been taken so that such incidents do not recur.

Indo-Pak joint commission on bilateral issues

246. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:
DR. H. P. SHARMA:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-Pak Joint Commission recently had a meeting at New Delhi; and

(b) if so, to what extent the various bilateral issues between the two countries have been resolved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some progress was made at this meeting. Among the decisions